Global Respiratory Virus Activity Weekly Update N° 482

Summarizing data through Week 25, ending 23 June 2024

Summary

Influenza

- In the Northern hemisphere, elevated influenza activity was reported in countries in Central America and the Caribbean (due to A(H3N2)viruses), Western Africa (due to A(H3N2) and B viruses), Southern Asia (due to A(H3N2) and A(H1N1)pdm09 viruses), and South East Asia (due to A(H1N1)pdm09 viruses), and with activity increasing in many of these countries. Activity in temperate countries remains low at interepidemic levels.
- In the Southern hemisphere, influenza activity continues to be elevated in countries in South America (due to A(H3N2)viruses), Eastern Africa (due to A(H1N1)pdm09 and B viruses), Southern Africa (due to A(H1N1)pdm09 and B viruses), and Oceania (A(H1N1)pdm09 and A(H3N2) viruses) but there are indications that activity may have peaked in some countries in South America and in Southern Africa.

SARS-CoV-2

- SARS-CoV-2 activity, reported from sentinel surveillance in 57 countries, was elevated and increasing in some countries in South West Europe, Northern Europe, and South East Asia. Activity continues to be elevated in some countries in Central America and the Caribbean, Western Africa, and Western Asia but at similar or lower levels than the prior reporting week.

Additional information

Only data on respiratory specimens tested for influenza or SARS-CoV-2 and reported to RespiMart from sentinel surveillance were included in the report. Countries may monitor respiratory virus activity using other surveillance approaches; however, those data were not included. Data from other sources of respiratory virus surveillance reported to RespiMart can be viewed here. Additional information on COVID-19 is reported on the WHO COVID-19 dashboard. Data on respiratory virus surveillance are provided to WHO through participation or collaboration with the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)

The proportion of sentinel specimens testing positive for influenza or SARS-CoV-2 was smoothed over a 3-week period among countries who reported testing at least 10 specimens for 2 weeks of the 3-week period. A 3-week percent positivity above 10% smoothed proportion of sentinel specimens testing positive for each virus was calculated as the absolute difference from the smoothed value during the prior reporting week.

Activity is summarized by geographical groupings of countries, areas, and territories. These groupings were used for their geographical description and do not imply similarity of respiratory virus transmission within each group. More information about the geographical groupings can be found here.

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